

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

With entry of this amendment, claims 42-48 and 66-70 are pending in this application. Claims 42-48 and 66-70 are allowed.

Claims 49, 50, 53-55, 58, 59, 61, 63, and 64 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Claims 51, 52, 56, 57, and 65 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Applicants cancel claims 49-65 and 71 without disclaimer of or prejudice to the subject matter recited therein, rendering the rejection of these claims moot.

II. Objection to Claims

The Examiner objects to claims 61-65 under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c) as allegedly being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Office Action, at page 2.

Solely to bring this application into a condition for allowance, and without acquiescing in the objection, Applicants cancel claims 61-65 without disclaimer of or prejudice to the subject matter recited therein. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's objection to claims 61-65 is moot.

III. Rejection of Claims

A. The Examiner rejects claims 49, 50, 53-55, 58, 59, 61, 63, and 64 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Perry (U.S. Patent No. 2,048,966). Office Action, at page 2.

Again, solely to bring this application into a condition for allowance, and without acquiescing in the rejection, Applicants cancel claims 49, 50, 53-55, 58, 59, 61, 63, and 64 without disclaimer of or prejudice to the subject matter recited therein. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's rejection of claims 49, 50, 53-55, 58, 59, 61, 63, and 64 is moot.

B. The Examiner rejects claims 51, 52, 56, 57, and 65 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Perry (U.S. Patent No. 2,048,966), and as allegedly being unpatentable over Perry (U.S. Patent No. 2,048,966) in view of Anton Crespo (ES 2023600). Office Action, at pages 3-6.

Again, solely to bring this application into a condition for allowance, and without acquiescing in the rejection, Applicants cancel claims 51, 52, 56, 57, and 65 without disclaimer of or prejudice to the subject matter recited therein. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's rejection of claims 51, 52, 56, 57, and 65 is moot.

IV. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing the application in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner feel that this application is not in condition for allowance, Applicants request that he contact their undersigned representative at 202-408-4072.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this Amendment and
charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: October 1, 2004

By: Charles E. Van Horn
Charles E. Van Horn
Reg. No. 40,266